

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/818,425	GENTILE, ROBERT	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Paul Callahan	2137	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to After Final Amendment of 7-14-2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11,12,15,23-25,27,29-35 and 45-55.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 July 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

  
**EMMANUEL L. MOISE**  
 SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

*PC*

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Amendment***

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action, when taken together with the changes made to the claim language by the latest amendment, is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.
2. Claims 1-59 were pending in the application at the time of the previous Office Action. Claims 1-10, 13, 14, 16-22, 26, 28, 36-44, and 56-59 have been cancelled by the latest amendment. Claims 11, 12, 15, 23-25, 27, 29-35, and 45-55 are pending and have been examined.

***Drawings***

3. The drawings were received on 7-14-2005. These drawings are approved.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 11, 12, 15, 23-25, 27, 29-35, and 45-55 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:  
  
The closest prior art in the field, Junya 5,469,564 and Davis, 6,633,981, singly and in reasonable combination with each other and the other prior art in the field do not teach the combination of features found in the independent claims including:

As for Claims 11 and 15: The writing to a check register of an access code wherein the writing is controlled by a BIOS program in response to a request from a flash memory utility program that is coupled to the processor or an external program, in combination with the other claim limitations,

As for claims 23 and 27: A check register that stores a random access code generated by a BIOS program wherein the check register gates the write enable signal to the control circuitry in response to the random access code and the check register is not located in the flash memory that contains the flash memory array, in combination with the other claim limitations,

As for claim 30: A program logic device to store a random access code generated by a processor based upon instructions from a BIOS program, wherein the program logic device gates a write enable signal to the control circuitry in response to the access code, in combination with the other claim limitations,

As for claim 45: Generating a random access code in response to an executed BIOS program, storing the generated code in a check register, toggling write enable signals of the flash memory in response to writes of the access code to the register.

As for claim 49, verification of the authenticity of a utility program, in combination with the other claim limitations,

As for claim 53, verifying the authenticity of a flash utility program with a BIOS program, in combination with the other limitations of the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

**Conclusion**

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following US Patent Document teaches features pertinent to the claimed invention:

Davis            5,844,986

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul E. Callahan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3869. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise, can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is: (571) 273-8300. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

8/3/2005

*Paul Callahan*

*E. Moise*  
EMMANUEL L. MOISE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

# REPLACEMENT SHEET

First Named Inventor: Robert Gentile

Title: FLASH DEVICE SECURITY METHOD UTILIZING A CHECK REGISTER

Atty. Docket No: 400.077US01

Filing Date: March 27, 2001 Serial No: 09/818,425

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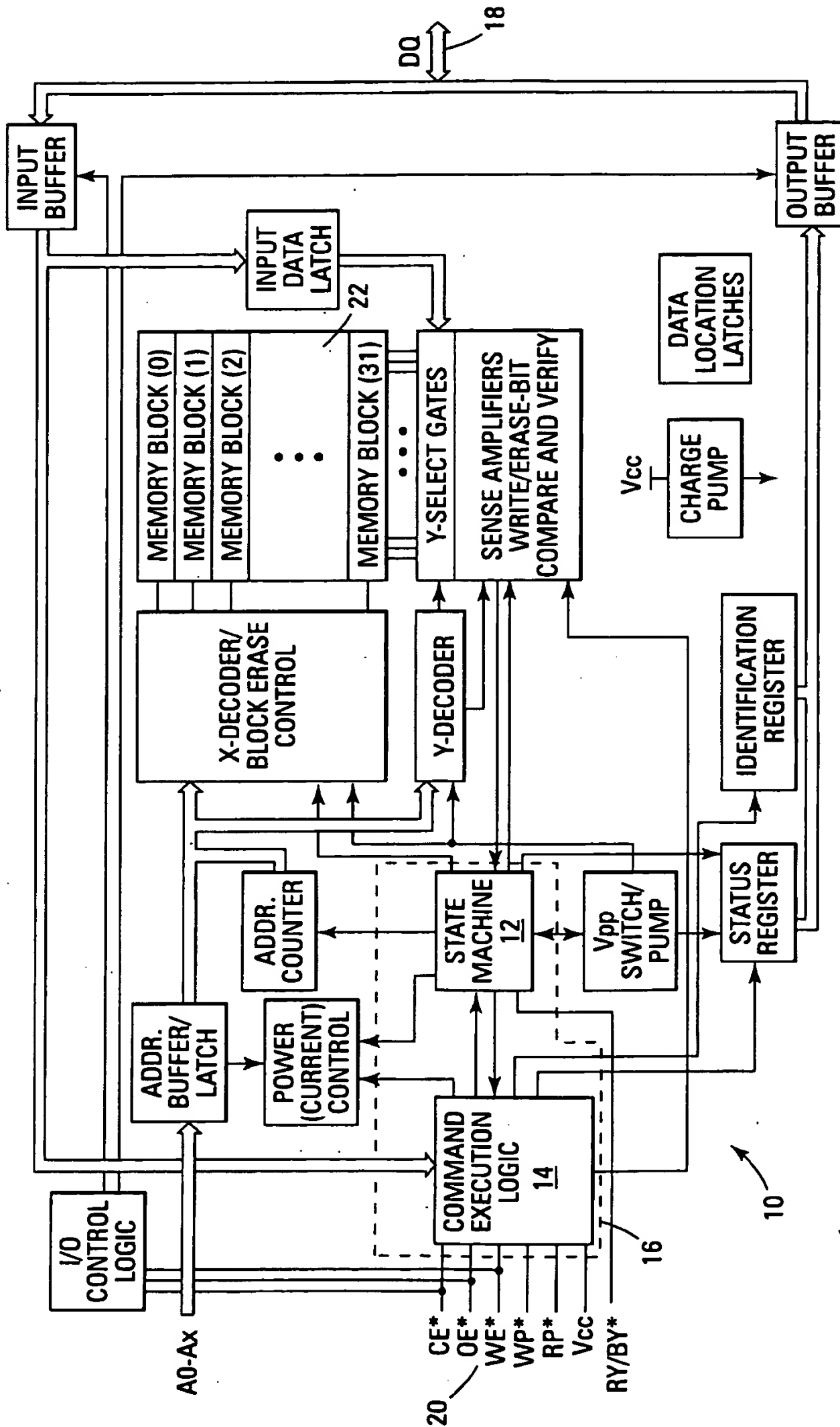
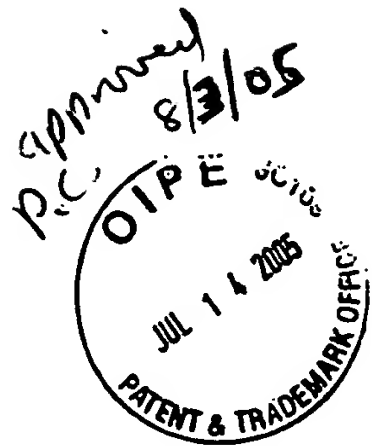
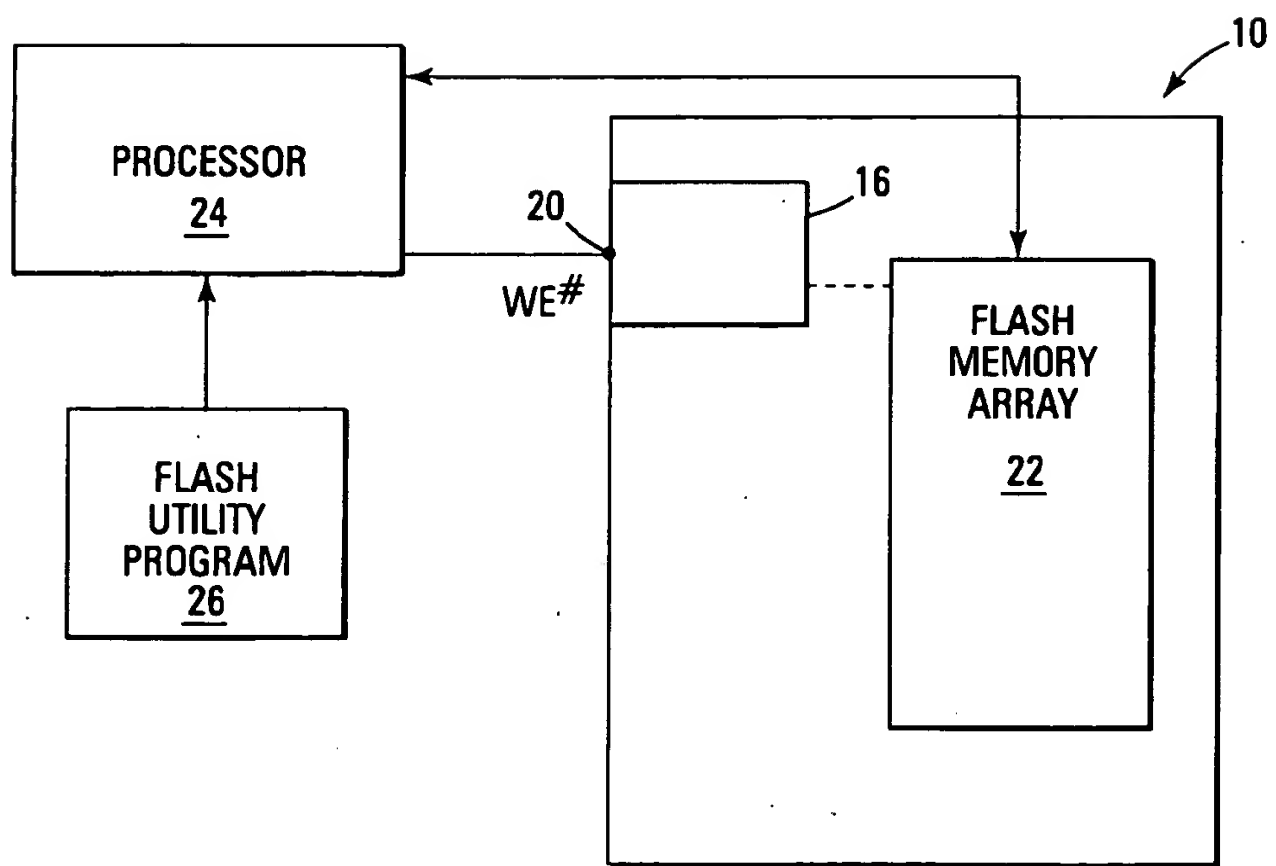


Fig. 1  
Prior Art

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*Fig. 2*  
*Prior Art*

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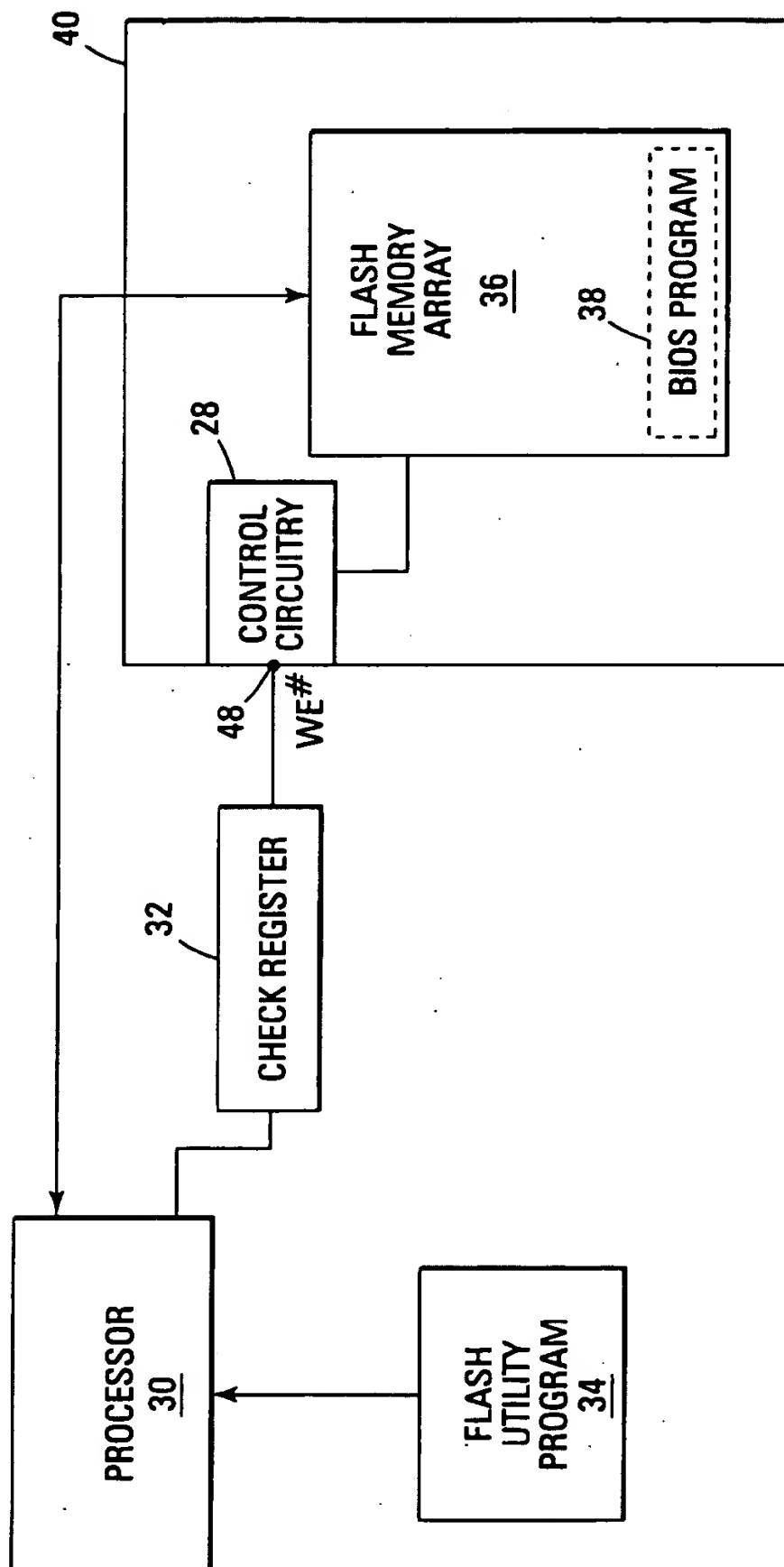


Fig. 3

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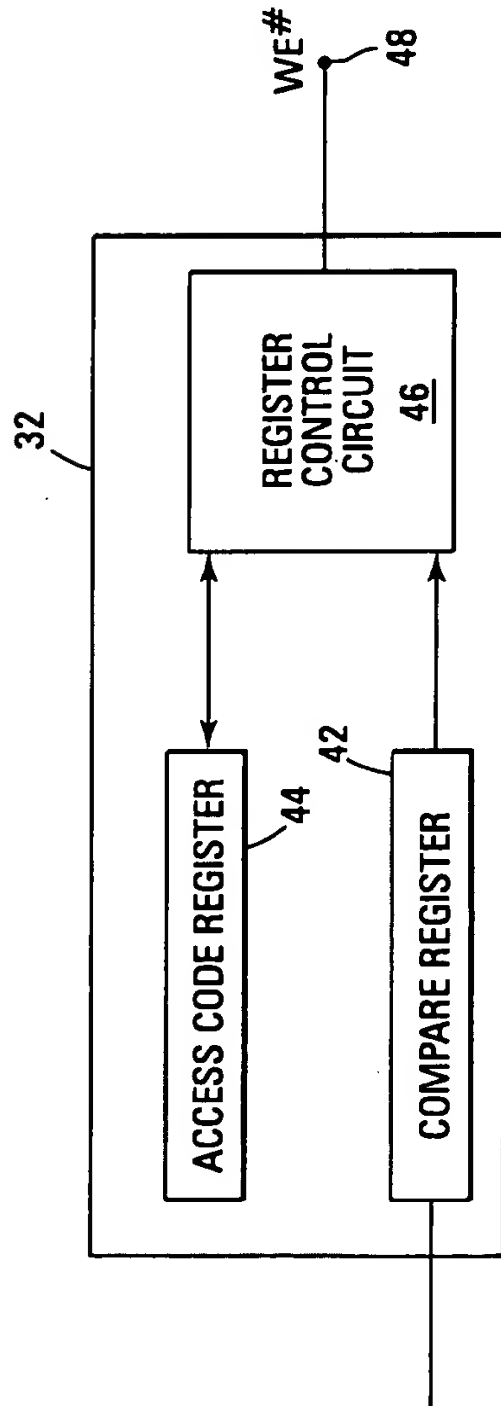


Fig. 4



REPLACEMENT SHEET

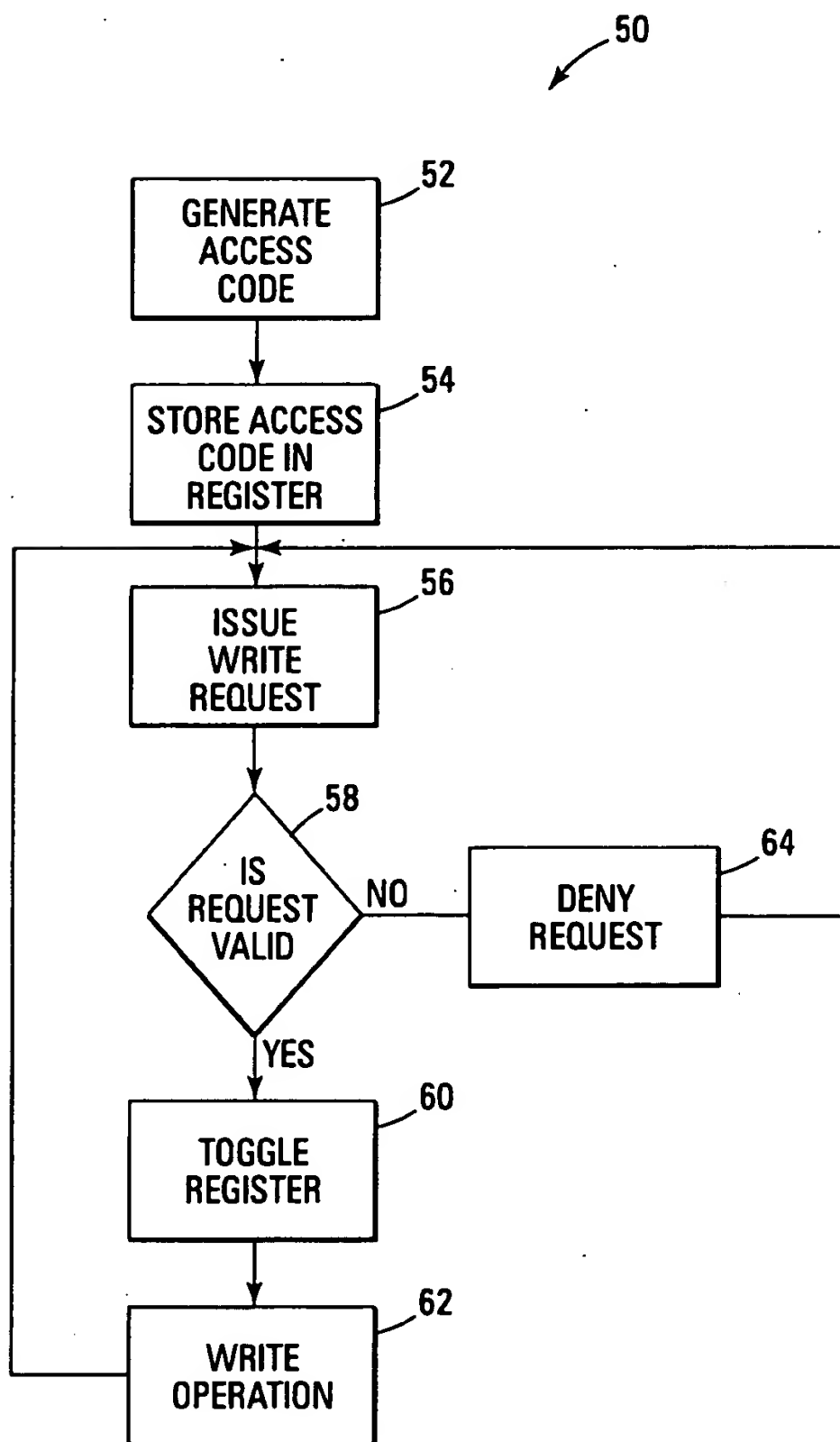
First Named Inventor: Robert Gentile

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*Fig. 5*

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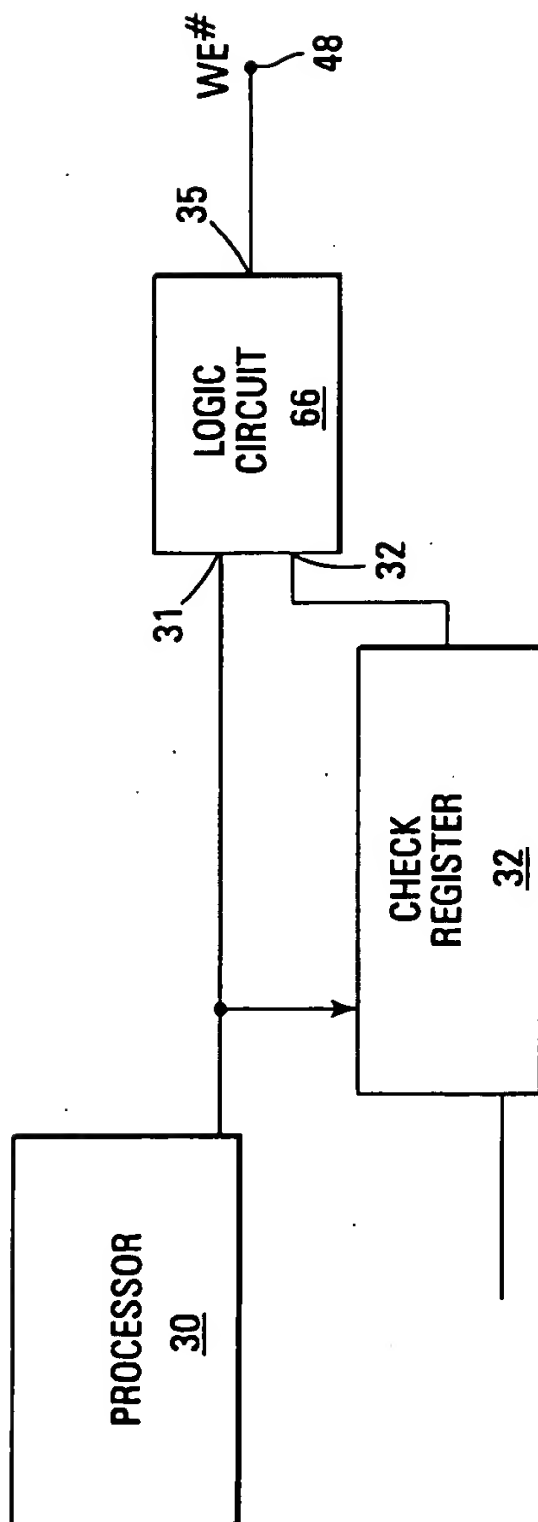


Fig. 6

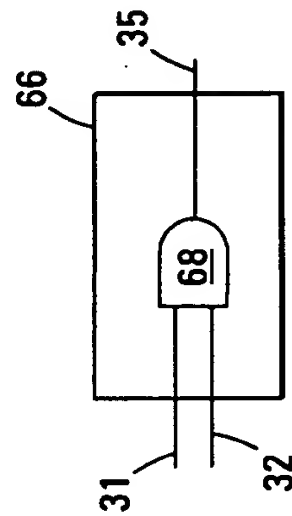


Fig. 7

**First Named Inventor: Robert Gentile**

**Atty. Docket No: 400.077US01**

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The diagram illustrates a system 40. A **PROCESSOR 30** is connected to a **FLASH UTILITY PROGRAM 34** and a **FLASH MEMORY ARRAY 36**. The processor 30 sends a **WE#** (write enable) signal to the flash memory array 36. The flash memory array 36 includes an **ACCESS CODE REGISTER 44** and a **COMPARE REGISTER 42**. A **CONTROL CIRCUITRY 28** is connected to the flash memory array 36 and the processor 30. The control circuitry 28 contains a **REGISTER CONTROL CIRCUIT 46** and a **LOGIC CIRCUIT 66**. A **BIOS 38** is also connected to the flash memory array 36. The system 40 is shown as a single block with internal components and their interconnections.

Fig. 8

REPLACEMENT SHEET

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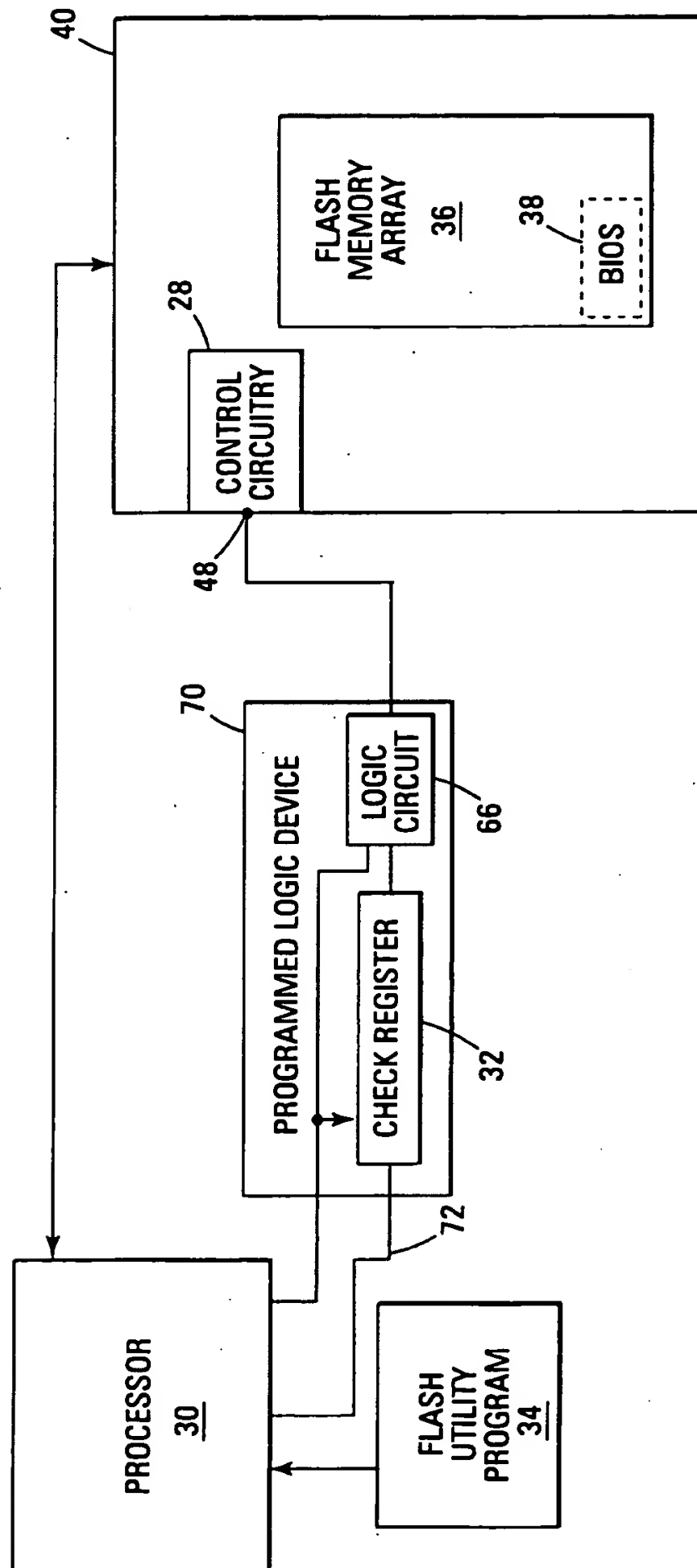


Fig. 9